lose financially, as they had to be otherwise paid notice period pay ranging from one month to three months.

Revival of Barauni Unit of HFCL

1743. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to close Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation;

(b) whether it has been decided to continue Namrup Unit of the Corporation which is in a similar situation with several steps for its revival; and

(c) if so, keeping in view the requirement of fertilizers in the Northern Region and need of agriculture in Bihar, whether Government propose to revive Barauni Unit on the same line as has been adopted for Namrup and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to close down the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) including its Barauni unit as the same has not been found techno-economically viable.

(b) The revival and revamp of Namrup units of HFC was decided in 1997. However, Barauni unit and Namrup units of HFC are not similarly placed in terms of feed-stock, etc.

(c) No, Sir. However, adequate supply of urea is ensured to all the States at a uniform Statutory Sale Price and no State is allowed to suffer from shortage of fertilizers.

Pollution in Metros

1744. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the pollution level of each of the metros in the country;

(b) what drastic action is being contemplated to bring down the pollution levels in the metros;